

Cables of Note:

- **(SBU) In Switzerland, Xi Offers Platitudes . . . and a New International Order** (*17 Geneva 62*)
- **(SBU) NE China Hospitals Face Overcrowding and Rise In Non-Communicable Diseases** (*17 Shenyang 38*)
- **(SBU) NE China Makes Progress on Wildlife Trafficking, Lowers Demand for Ivory and Tiger Bone** (*17 Shenyang 40*)
- **(SBU) Traditional Chinese Medicine on the Rise with Official Support** (*17 Shanghai 84*)
- **(SBU) Troubled Waters: Chinese Sturgeon Nearly Extinct in the Wild Due to Overfishing, Dams and Pollution** (*17 Wuhan 14*)
- **(SBU) Ghana: What China is Doing in Ghana and Why it Matters** (*17 Accra 246*)
- **(SBU) NE China Banking Sector: a Relic of the Rustbelt** (*17 Shenyang 46*)
- **(SBU) The 2016 Liaoning Recession: A Market or Data Correction?** (*17 Shenyang 48*)
- **(SBU) Newly Elected PSEF Coordinator Talks Energy Reform and Chinese Investment** (*17 Port Au Prince 402*)
- **(SBU) Tanzania: 'Walk for Elephants' Highlights Chinese Domestic Ivory Ban** (*17 Dar Es Salaam 104*)
- **(SBU) Difficult IATTC Negotiations End with Agreement on 2017 Tuna Conservation Measure** (*17 State 15168*)

News from Chinese Ministries (*Made-in-China 2015* and *industrial FYP*)

Notes from Post

Notes from Chinese Ministries

Sets of guide for Made-in-China 2015 and industrial 13th Five-Year Plans completed. The Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) announced the completion of issuance of guidance for implementing the Made-in-China 2025 initiative. The full set of guides consists of five major project guides for national manufacturing innovation centers, industrial foundations, smart manufacturing, green manufacturing and advanced equipment innovation; two dedication

action guides for service-oriented manufacturing and equipment manufacturing quality and brand; and four development planning guides for new materials, information industry, pharma and manufacturing talent. MIIT has also completed 28 industry and issue plans including one for Made-in-China 2025 for the 13th Five-Year Plan. The 28 plans consist of 11 industry plans covering civil explosives, petrochemical, steel, non-ferrous metals, construction materials, pharmaceutical, textile, light industry, information industry, software and information technology services, and information and telecommunication; and 17 area and issue plans including rare earths, new materials, big data, robotics, smart manufacturing, green manufacturing, industrial technology innovation, information and industry integration, SME development, and radio management. MIIT said the plans are not mandatory but serving only as guidance providing references to governments and companies in their decision-making and subject to the “decisive” role of the market in resource allocation. (MIIT)

Notes from Post

(SBU) U.S.-China Transportation Forum: Officials from MOT’s Department of International Cooperation expressed a strong interest in inviting Secretary of Transportation Elaine Chao to China to attend the 9th U.S.-China Transportation Forum, which MOT is tentatively holding in the last quarter of 2017, possibly in Qingdao. The last such forum was held in Los Angeles in June 2016. The officials cited the Trump Administration’s efforts to promote investment in U.S. infrastructure as an opportunity to bring Secretary Chao and Minister of Transport Li Xiaopeng together to find opportunities for infrastructure cooperation and to exchange best practices.

(SBU) China Expects EU Antitrust Approval for Syngenta Sale: Chinese state media said state-owned China National Chemical Corp (ChemChina) will receive conditional EU antitrust approval, possibly as early as March, for its \$43 billion bid for Switzerland-based Syngenta, the world’s leading agrochemical company and a major player in the seed market. First announced in February 2016, the deal would be China’s largest-ever foreign acquisition. Despite U.S. politicians’ concerns over the Chinese state-owned company’s potential influence over the U.S. food supply, the deal cleared CFIUS review in August 2016. On January 20, ChemChina filed for antitrust review with the U.S. Federal Trade Commission. The agrochemical industry is highly consolidated with only six companies accounting for more than 70% of worldwide market share. Syngenta holds the leading position.

(SBU) Annual Ag Reform Document Released: The annual “No. 1 Document,” released on February 5, doubled down on supply-side reforms in the agricultural sector and the importance of rural stability. Reforms announced in the 2017 document include optimizing product and industry structure, improving food quality and efficiency, promoting environmentally-friendly and sustainable agricultural production, developing modern agricultural practices, and improving the lives of farmers. The full Chinese text is at [[HYPERLINK](http://finance.jrj.com.cn/2017/02/05174722025264.shtml) "http://finance.jrj.com.cn/2017/02/05174722025264.shtml"], while the Ministry of Agriculture’s implementation plan – announced February 6 – is at [[HYPERLINK](#)]

"<http://finance.jrj.com.cn/2017/02/06111822027577.shtml>"]. A full English translation will be available the week of February 13.

(SBU) Xi calls for reform of China's foreign aid architecture; larger role for

CCP: President Xi Jinping said foreign aid must be more strategic, extract greater returns for China, and cut waste at a February 6 small group meeting of the Communist Party's Leading Small Group on Comprehensively Deepening Reform. Chinese media assessed that Xi's comments would lead to an increased role for the Communist Party in foreign aid management. A *Global Times* article published on Feb 5 also called for foreign aid reform, noting that China needed to expand its aid beyond infrastructure ([\[HYPERLINK "http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1031499.shtml" \]](http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1031499.shtml)). Since the 2015 Forum on China-Africa Cooperation summit, think tanks and Beijing academics have noted the larger role China must play in international development and have been discussing ways to improve its aid effectiveness. Contacts at MOFCOM responsible for China's foreign assistance were not aware of any details regarding specific suggestions made during the meeting.

(SBU) Flu Fatigue Leads to Minimal Reaction Over H7N9: China's latest seasonal outbreak of the H7N9 avian influenza strain emerged in Suining, Sichuan, the first known human infections in the province, bringing to seven the total in southwest China. Following unspecified exposure to live poultry, four unrelated men, all above the age of 50, became ill in late January and early February and are currently hospitalized in critical but stable condition. The Suining government has since vaccinated over 268,000 birds out of an estimated 22 million in the area but there have been no reports of culling or local market closures. Unlike last year's outbreak of H5N1 in Chengdu which prompted local anxiety over poultry (including banning even cooked chicken from international school cafeterias), reaction to the latest infections is relatively muted. In the 20 years since H5N1 was identified, it has infected fewer people than H7N9 has in just 3 years. However, fatigue from avian influenza panics seems to be setting in, and thus far there has been minimal public reaction.

(SBU) Daqing Protests Continue: On February 14, a protest in Daqing, Heilongjiang Province reached its apparent height, with reports of thousands of residents protesting a local government decision to approve the building of an aluminum processing plant by China ZhongWang Holdings Limited (中国忠旺控股有限公司), the second largest industrial aluminum product developer globally. Residents were concerned about the location of the project, which was less than 1 km to the Honqi reservoir and within two to three km of two schools and several residential areas. A contact at the Volvo plant in the city told ESTHOff the protests, though still ongoing, "seemed to be dying down," with smaller numbers of protesters on the streets. The Volvo contact also reported that the protests had not disrupted his company's operations and had not significantly impacted daily life in the city. A ZhongWang public affairs representative told the Consulate "some local residents and college teachers started a rumor" about the environmental impact of the project. Local government officials assured news outlets that

potential atmospheric pollutants from the factory such as fluoride, sulfur dioxide and asphalt smoke and any carbon residue and sewage would be efficiently handled and should not cause any major environmental impact. In a bid to satisfy the public, local government representatives promised on February 13 to stop the construction of the factory and reevaluate the environmental situation, according to news reports.

(SBU) China to Fund a Domestic World Food Program (WFP) Project: At a February 17 meeting with Econoffs and USAID, the WFP/China Country Director said WFP will lead a \$29 million domestic program to address child malnutrition through school food programs funded solely from Chinese sources. This project will focus on Anhui, Gansu, Guangxi, Hainan, and Hunan provinces with eventual international expansion to Ghana and Cambodia. Per WFP/China, the Chinese government has committed \$7.5 million (\$1.5 million per year) to the 5-year program with the rest to be sourced from Chinese corporate and public donors – no funding will come from outside China. Per the Country Director, WFP/China is first international organization China has allowed to fundraise directly from the Chinese public. WFP/China said China's 2017 WFP contribution should increase incrementally over 2016. In 2016, China was the 27th largest contributor to WFP at \$20 million while the United States donated over \$2 billion.



NIH's Cancer Moonshot Event Highlights U.S.-China Collaboration on Cancer Research

Feb. 13, Beijing – Dr. Edward "Ted" Trimble, Director for the Center for Global Health, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, gave a presentation at the Beijing American Center to more than 140 people on the U.S. Government's "Beau Biden Cancer Moonshot." Moderated by Matt Brown, Director of China Office, National Institute of Health, Dr. Trimble took questions from the audience

including on how the U.S. works to accelerate new cancer drugs and expand clinical trials to patients who need them, the essential role that cancer screening and tobacco control play in the national Cancer control plan, and how the U.S. National Cancer Institute's China Office is supporting and expanding collaborative work with Chinese institutions such as the Chinese National Cancer Center, Chinese Academy of Medical Science, and the Chinese Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



Thursday Night Lecture: African American Inventors

Feb. 9, Shenyang – As part of PAS programs to commemorate Black History Month, Consular Officer Nicole Baden gave a talk on "African American Inventors" to an audience of 30 people. Local listeners learned about the contributions of African Americans in the field of science and technology, as well as factors driving innovation in the U.S.